**Celebrating** a Century of Progress 1905-2005

# *Celebrating Saskatchewan*

## Citizens' Advisory Council on Anniversaries

May 1998 – March 2001

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Biographies of each Advisory Council member can be found on the Celebrating Saskatchewan website: www.celebratingsask.com

Celebrating SASKATCHEWAN 2000-2005

Cover photos courtesy of Saskatchewan Archives Board and Tourism Saskatchewan.

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# Background

On September 1, 1905, Saskatchewan and Alberta officially became provinces within the Canadian Confederation. On that day in Edmonton, Prime Minister Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Governor General Earl Grey officiated in inaugural ceremonies with the people of Alberta to celebrate this historic event. From Edmonton, the entourage, including the Prime Minister, Governor General and other dignitaries, journeyed by special train to arrive in Regina on September 4th for the inaugural ceremonies welcoming Saskatchewan into Confederation.

The excitement and celebration of this special day, September 4, 1905, Saskatchewan's inauguration into the Dominion of Canada, started early in the morning and extended late into the night. By all accounts this was a grand day that left memories in the lives and minds of Saskatchewan people for many years to come.

*"The great, the long-expected and much-prepared for day has come and gone, and amidst much pomp and ceremonial and boundless popular enthusiasm Saskatchewan has taken her place in the confederation of Provinces that constitute the Dominion of Canada.*

*... bands of workmen, re-enforced by a small army of volunteers, were busy far into the night putting the finishing touches to the fitting preparation of Regina for the ceremony of Septembe the fourth... decorations had been prepared on the most elaborate scale. four great arches of golden grain and evergreen boughs over South Railway Street... places of business were, almost without exception, profusely and artistically decorated with flags all sizes, bunting, heraldic and other devices... most of the humblest dwellings of the city hung out their tribute of respect... and at dusk stree became one dazzling mass of electric light, almost blinding in their brilliancy.*

*Monday morning broke clear and fine, with a fresh breeze fluttering ou the innumerable flags that flew in every direction above the city. From early dawn the special excursion trains from the north, south, east an west began to pour in their human loads and by nine o'clock the greates crowd ever met within Regina was thronging the sidewalks and roadways.*

*The air was full of music, played by the various bands in the different portions of the town. Among the bands present were the 90th Regiment, Neepawa, Brandon City Band, Wolseley Silver Band, Rosther Indian Industrial School, Regina Citizens' Band and Cox's Drum and Fife Band, all of which gave their services gratuitously."*

WRIGHT BROS

*"... school children numbering seven or eight hundred started the day with a parade, marching four abreast towards Victoria Park, to sing for the Prime Minister and Governor General, the girls in white and the boys in blue caps and sashes, each waving a Canadian flag... followed by a general parade that even had elephants... displays on foot and horseback by over 300 members of the 90th Regiment and 200 from the Royal North-West Mounted Police... luncheons, dinners and speeches... push ball and lacrosse matches... a fancy Inaugural Ball... and the biggest and most magnificent display of fireworks ever in the Dominion."*

The Leader - September 6, 1905

In 2005, Saskatchewan will be celebrating 100 years of growth, progress and accomplishment as a Province of Canada. It will be an occasion for celebration by all Saskatchewan communities and residents.

*"I would vision those vast prairies inhabited by a strong, independent patriotic people building towns, cities, and villages and making the stubborn prairie soil yield its wealth in order to provide happy and prosperous homes for multitudes, and helping to furnish sustenance for dwellers in less favoured regions, living in harmony and peace, and fulfilling their destiny as patriotic Canadians."*

Excerpt from speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier,
Prime Minister of Canada,
at Regina, Saskatchewan,
September 4, 1905

The celebration of Saskatchewan's Centennial is an opportunity to create a focal point for optimism and pride in Saskatchewan and to rally loyalty and a sense of worth in the hearts and minds Saskatchewan people. It is also an excellent opportunity to share Saskatchewan pride with all the people Canada and the world. Our Centennial is an occasion of such significance that implementation of a plan for the year-lo celebrations must begin immediately in order to maximize the opportunities it affords.

Planning for Saskatchewan's Centennial began in 1998, when the Province of Saskatchewan established a Citizens' Advisory Council on Anniversaries (hereafter referred to as the "Advisory Council" or "Council"). This committee o volunteers, representing people from various walks of life and from around th province, was appointed by the Honourable Roy Romanow, Q.C., Premier of Saskatchewan. The first task of the Advisory Council was to make recommendations for the Province's millennium initiatives. Secondly, and most importantly, the Advisory Council was charged with seeking the opinions and ideas of Saskatchewan people on ways to celebrate Saskatchewan's 100t Anniversary as a Province of Canada, an to make recommendations that would provide a framework within which detailed planning could occur for Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations.

Veterans Day parade in Regina, 1945. Saskatchewn Archives Board – R-A3263.

The approach for developing Saskatchewan's Centennial recommendations was based on:

The Advisory Council's vision:

*"To encourage and assist the people of Saskatchewan to participate in celebrating Saskatchewan by commemorating our past, recognizing our present, and nurturing hope and opportunity for our future."*

And, on these guiding principles:

**That Saskatchewan's Centennial is a milestone of such importance the people of this Province want to celebrate it in significant and meaningful ways.**

**That all Saskatchewan people will have an opportunity to be involved in Saskatchewan's Centennial and their thoughts and ideas will be reflected in the celebrations and the legacies.**

**That Saskatchewan's Aboriginal people have contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of this Province, and their ideas and involvement are an important part of Saskatchewan's Centennial.**

**That all Centennial projects and initiatives supported by the Government of Saskatchewan must be of a lasting nature, providing opportunities or leaving legacies for future generations, and reflecting the character and the people of Saskatchewan.**

**That the Provincial Centennial will foster pride in Saskatchewan people for their past successes and confidence in Saskatchewan's future.**

The Advisory Council believes that in order to establish a good base for Centennial celebrations and legacy projects, the following needs to occur:

**The Province of Saskatchewan, through the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation, will act as a catalyst and facilitator to encourage, promote, coordinate and implement the Province's Centennial initiatives.**

**The Province of Saskatchewan will engage the Federal Government in the planning and implementation of Centennial initiatives through funding support and joint initiatives.**

**The Province of Saskatchewan will engage the Province of Alberta in joint Centennial initiatives in an effort to have the two Centennials complement each other.**

**The Province of Saskatchewan will encourage community groups, non-profit organizations, service clubs, religious organizations, education, labour, local governments, as well as the business, industry and tourism sectors to participate in Centennial celebrations in their own way.**

To assist the Advisory Council in planning and carrying out its work, an Anniversaries Secretariat was established early in 1998. The Secretariat's role has been to provide administrative support to the Advisory Council, to co-ordinate and implement the Province's millennium projects and activities, and to manage the public consultation process.

The recommendations in this document are based on the opinions and ideas of Saskatchewan people gathered by the Advisory Council over the course of its tenure. The Advisory Council's recommendations will provide the basis for developing a plan for Saskatchewan's Centennial.

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# Gathering Ideas from Saskatchewan People

Seeking the opinions of Saskatchewan residents was a crucial element in establishing the framework of recommendations for Saskatchewan's Centennial. From the onset of its appointment, the Advisory Council understood Centennial celebrations would not be successful if Saskatchewan people's ideas for ways to celebrate were not seriously considered. The Advisory Council suggests Saskatchewan people should be involved in the future phases of Centennial planning and implementation.

Several methods were used to create awareness about the upcoming Provincial Centennial and to gather ideas about Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations. In 1998, a Celebrating Saskatchewan logo was developed and since then has been used in all promotional items relating to the Council's work. In the logo, the words "Celebrating Saskatchewan" are accompanied by the years "2000-2005" indicating the timeframe between Saskatchewan's millennium initiatives and the Provincial Centennial in 2005. It has been noted there are approximately seventy Saskatchewan communities that will celebrate their own centennial between 2001 and 2005. To help create momentum and assist in bridging the 5-year span

Saskatchewan Archives Board – R-B1095

between Saskatchewan's millennium celebrations and the Provincial Centennial, the Advisory Council felt it important to incorporate those community centennials in their thoughts and recommendations as noted in this document.

Throughout 1999-2000, the Advisory Council's Celebrating Saskatchewan millennium initiatives were launched and implemented. Simultaneously, the Council embarked into serious deliberations on planning the Province's Centennial resulting in a Discussion Paper entitled "Planning Saskatchewan's Centennial 1905-2005." The Discussion Paper contained ideas the Advisory Council itself had identified as Centennial initiatives as well as ideas it had received (to date) from Saskatchewan people, organizations and communities.

In May and June of 2000 a public consultation process took place including numerous presentations and public meetings. Hundreds of invitations went out to communities, community groups and provincial organizations, inviting them to participate in 'Planning Saskatchewan's Centennial' by attending a public meeting or by submitting their ideas on how they felt their Centennial should be celebrated.

In advance of the public meetings, three thousand copies of the Discussion Paper "Planning Saskatchewan's Centennial 1905-2005" were distributed to individuals and organizations. The Advisory Council hoped its Discussion Paper would trigger a wealth of ideas from the Saskatchewan public. People were encouraged to share their ideas a either the public meetings or to submit them in writing to the Advisory Council. At the same time 30,000 copies of a brochure, also entitled "Planning Saskatchewan's Centennial 1905-2005 were widely distributed throughout the Province to hundreds of Saskatchewan organizations and individuals. People could also submit their ideas electronically through the Celebrating Saskatchewan website at www.celebratingsask.com

All of the communication vehicles (the Discussion Paper, the brochure and the website) created an awareness Saskatchewan's Centennial was coming and ideas were being gathered. The Discussion Paper and the brochure encouraged people to get involved in the planning by simply completing an attached response form that included paid postage and a return address. The Celebrating Saskatchewan website had an electronic response form, and upon completion, could be submitted directly via email.

**While the website is accessible to people around the world as well as throughout Saskatchewan, the 30,000 brochures and 3,000 Discussion Papers were directly distributed to:**

- Sask Sport Inc. and its members
- SaskCulture Inc. and its members
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association and its members
- Tourism Saskatchewan and its members
- Saskatchewan Urban Municipality Association (SUMA) and its members
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) and its members
- Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) and its members
- Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and its members
- all Saskatchewan health boards
- all Saskatchewan school boards and the major school-related organizations
- all Regional Economic Development Associations (REDA's)
- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce and local Chambers
- numerous community-based service clubs
- all Members of Saskatchewan's Legislative Assembly and their constituency offices
- ali Saskatchewan Members of Parliament
- all government departments, agencies and Crowns
- others

**During the fall and winter of 1999-2000, presentations were made at luncheons and dinners of numerous service clubs and chambers of commerce and at conferences of several major provincial organizations, including:**

- Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA);
- SaskCulture Inc.;
- Saskatchewan Parks & Recreation Association (S.P.R.A.); and
- Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions (SAASE).

Fifteen public meetings took place in Saskatchewan communities during the months of May and June 2000:

Estevan
Humboldt
La Ronge
Lloydminster
Maple Creek
Melfort
Moose Jaw
North Battleford
Prince Albert
Regina
Saskatoon
Swift Current
Weyburn
Wolseley
Yorkton

During May and June 2000, special consultation meetings were held with a variety of groups and organizations, including:

- Swift Current City Council;
- Yorkton City Council;
- Grade 12 history class at the Swift Current Comprehensive High School;
- youth group at Regina's Rainbow Youth Centre;
- Executive Council of Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations; and
- Northern Recreation Co-ordinators at their annual conference in La Ronge.

Many one-on-one meetings were held throughout the year with individuals who wanted to share a 'great idea'. As well, meetings were held with heads of several organizations, local Centennial committees, corporations and Members of Saskatchewan's Legislative Assembly.

Throughout all of these consultations the support for early planning and a desire to have a broad range of celebration initiatives was overwhelming. Hundreds of ideas, some repeatedly, were put forward. While people expressed an appreciation of the potential cost of Centennial celebrations, at the same time they expressed the desire to not miss this opportunity to celebrate. At the root of people's comments was the realization a celebration of this magnitude would inevitably raise personal and community pride amongst Saskatchewan people.

Defining the direction of Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations is a complex and extremely important task. This report outlines the Advisory Council's eleven recommendations for celebrating Saskatchewan's Centennial. It is envisioned these eleven recommendations will shape the direction of Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations and establish a framework within which detailed planning can begin to occur. In broad terms, these recommendations encompass two themes for Saskatchewan's Centennial: the celebrations and the legacies.

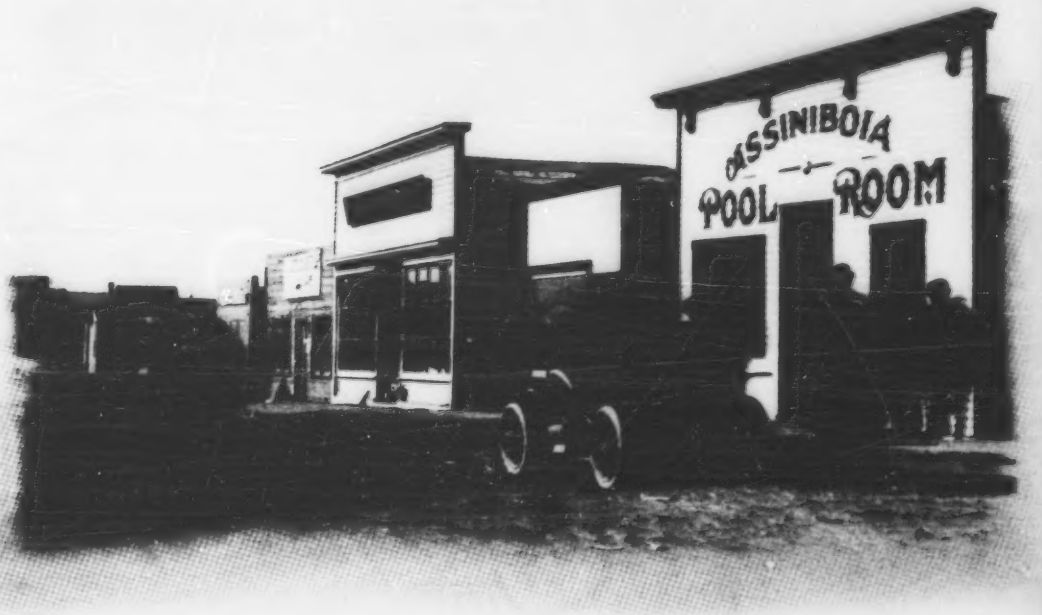
# The Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation

In public meetings and through written comments and telephone calls, Saskatchewan people identified that the Province should provide the lead role in Centennial celebrations.

It is envisioned that the Government of Saskatchewan, through a Treasury Board Crown Corporation (to be called the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation), should act as a catalyst and facilitator. It is further envisioned the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation should encourage, promote, co-ordinate and implement a wide range of Centennial programs and activities, with the emphasis on community. As well, the Corporation should liaise with all levels of government and provide leadership for communities, organizations and Saskatchewan people.

To govern the planning and implementation of Centennial programs and initiatives, a representative volunteer board should be appointed to the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation. The Corporation's Board will guide Saskatchewan through to the conclusion of the Centennial celebrations. It is envisioned a number of volunteer-driven committees will supplement the Corporation's Board and for the sake of continuity those volunteers who participated on the Advisory Council should be involved in various capacities within the Centennial Corporation's structure.

The programs and initiatives that make up Saskatchewan's Centennial should be divided into two main categories, those of a celebration nature to occur during the Centennial year, and those providing a legacy for future generations.




Centre Street in Assiniboia, ca 1913. Saskatchewan Archives Board – R-A146.

## RECOMMENDATION #1

**Establish a Treasury Board Crown Corporation, called the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan establish a Treasury Board Crown Corporation, called the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation, reporting directly to a Minister of the Crown, to govern the planning and implementation of Centennial programs and initiatives. The Corporation will exist through to fiscal year-end 2005-06.

It is recommended that the creation of the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation be modelled on the 1978 Legislation establishing the Saskatchewan Diamond Jubilee Corporation, which successfully carried out celebrations for the Province's 75th Anniversary.

It is recommended that a prominent Saskatchewan individual be appointed as head of the Corporation's Board, to serve as a visible and respected leader of Saskatchewan's Centennial.

It is recommended that the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation consist of a representative Board of Directors numbering no less than five (5) people and no more than nine (9) people.

It is recommended that the role of the Corporation's Board is to set policy and direction for the two key components of the Centennial – celebrations and legacies.

Lieutenant Governor (1898-1910)
Amédée Forget
and pet monkey Jocko.
Saskatchewan Archives Board – R-A7593.

# 2. Celebrations

The following components are some of the ways in which Saskatchewan should celebrate its Centennial.

A. THEME & LOGO
B. SPECIAL EVENTS, VISITS & TOURS
C. COMMUNITY INITIATIVES
D. ARTS & CULTURAL INITIATIVES & SPORTING EVENTS
E. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

## A. THEME & LOGO

A corporate theme and logo will serve as a focal point for Centennial celebrations and should be developed early in the Centennial planning to take advantage of promoting and marketing the Centennial locally, nationally and abroad.

It is important the Saskatchewan Centennial theme and logo be developed in a manner that ensures the opportunity and flexibility for its use in a wide range of mediums – in print and electronic formats – and for promotional items and marketing purposes. The Saskatchewan Centennial logo must be immediately recognizable as "Saskatchewan" and must convey the pride of Saskatchewan people. By developing a Centennial theme and logo early in the process allows for a full-fledged marketing and promotions campaign to begin, thus creating the necessary awareness that Saskatchewan's Centennial is coming and to build enthusiasm and momentum for this major milestone. It is envisioned that leading up to and during the Centennial year, the Saskatchewan Centennial theme and logo will serve as a focal point for all Centennial celebrations and initiatives.

During the development of the Centennial theme and logo, consideration should be given to incorporating Saskatchewan's existing motto, captured on the Province's official Coat of Arms, "From Many Peoples Strength."

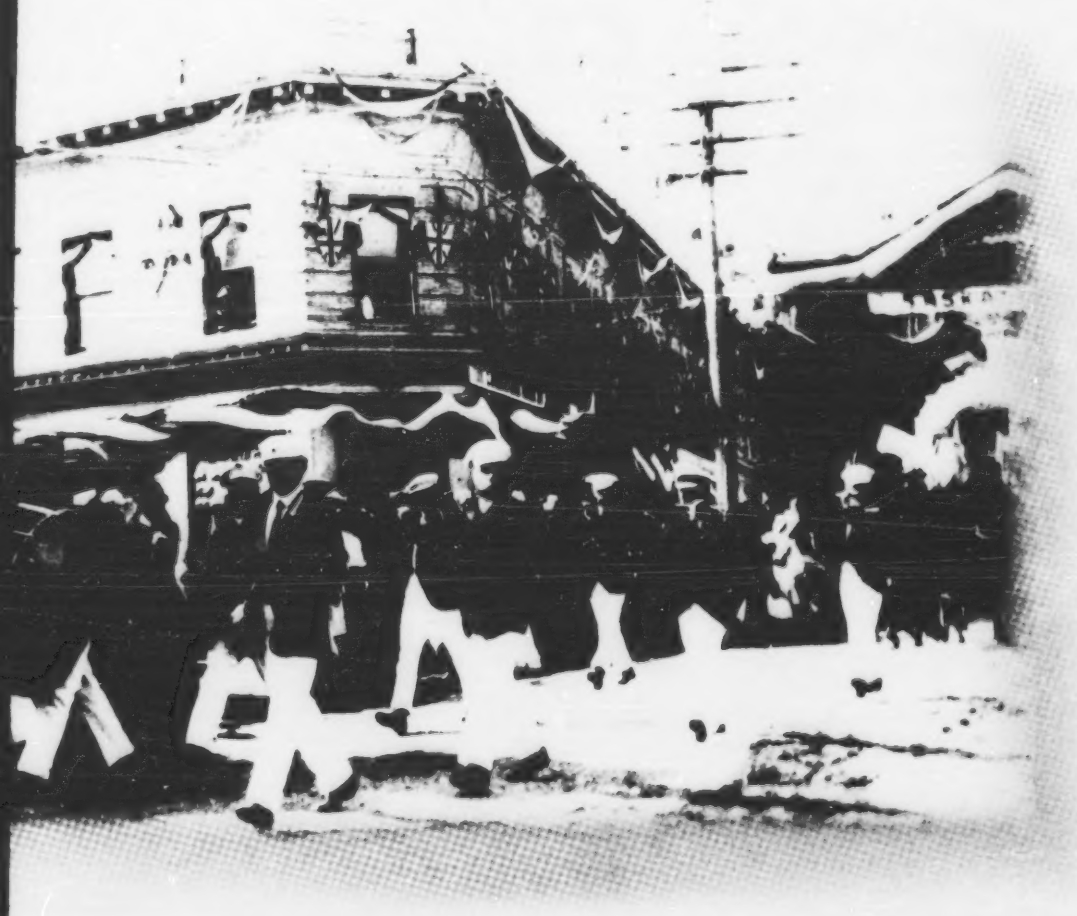
Inauguration Day parade, 1905. Saskatchewan Archives Board – R-A2747-1.

## RECOMMENDATION #2

**Develop a Saskatchewan Centennial theme and logo.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan initiate the development of a corporate theme and logo early in the schedule of Centennial activities to serve as a focal point for commemorating Saskatchewan's Centennial.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan legally register the Saskatchewan Centennial theme and logo as trademarks of the Province and develop policy for broad-base use and revenue generating opportunities.



## B. SPECIAL EVENTS, VISITS & TOURS

It is proposed a number of Centennial programs be initiated that are 'Provincial' in nature. These programs should be implemented province-wide and should be initiated through the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation.

During the public meetings and as a result of the Centennial idea-gathering process, Saskatchewan people indicated a desire for a number of "special events" to take place during Saskatchewan's Centennial year. There are a number of key dates during the year that could be targeted, including the first day of the Centennial year and the Anniversary of Saskatchewan's inauguration, January 1st and September 4th respectively. Other dates may be included in this list as specific plans for the Centennial are put into place.

A milestone such as Saskatchewan's Centennial is a fitting time to recognize individuals who have made major contributions to this great Province. The Advisory Council realizes that currently there are many opportunities for Saskatchewan people to be recognized by their peers, and it is envisioned during the Centennial year an enhanced recognition program should be implemented to further acknowledge contributions made by Saskatchewan citizens. It is envisioned a Saskatchewan Centennial Recognition Program be developed by the Province, where worthy people would receive a "special" Centennial recognition.

Although it is people who make a particular event, organization, business or community stand out, there is a desire to establish a Centennial Recognition Program recognizing those events, organizations, businesses and/or communities. Overall, a plan should be incorporated ensuring these and other ideas are implemented, resulting in meaningful and representative recognitions during the Centennial year.

The Province of Alberta is also celebrating its Centennial in 2005 and Saskatchewan's Advisory Council envisions the two provinces could undertake a number of joint initiatives. Extending joint invitations to the Royal family and to other world dignitaries are at the core of joint Saskatchewan-Alberta Centennial ideas. Visits by world dignitaries will stimulate business opportunities and provide cultural exchanges. Other ideas for joint projects include enhanced Saskatchewan-Alberta border crossings and a new cross-border park. As the Centennial plans evolve it is expected there will be many opportunities for joint Centennial initiatives, ultimately enhancing each Province's own Centennial celebrations.

## RECOMMENDATION #3

**Include special events, visits and tours in Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan celebrate its Centennial by organizing a number of provincial events, including, but not limited to:

January 1, 2005 – Ringing in the Centennial, a bell-ringing event to occur in every community throughout the province, welcoming in Saskatchewan's Centennial year;

September 1, 2005 – a re-enactment of the inaugural train that travelled from Edmonton to Regina; and

September 4, 2005 – special birthday celebrations to take place in every community throughout the province, marking Saskatchewan's 100th Birthday.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan declare a one-time provincial statutory holiday marking the joining of Saskatchewan to the Confederation of Canada.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan celebrate its Centennial by recognizing people, businesses, organizations and events through a specially developed Centennial recognition program.

It is recommended that a number of joint Centennial initiatives be implemented between the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Ben Eaketts arriving in Saskatoon in 1903 (Frontier). Saskatchewan Archives Board - R-B1754.

C. COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Now through to 2005, over seventy Saskatchewan communities will celebrate their 100th Anniversary. To bridge the time between now and the Provincial Centennial there is a desire to help make those local celebrations more successful and memorable, thus creating a natural momentum to Saskatchewan's Centennial in 2005.

When asked how they wanted to celebrate the Provincial Centennial in 2005, Saskatchewan people repeatedly suggested homecomings and reunions as their activity of choice. They were persistent in stating they want to celebrate 'at home' where there is a strong sense of community. They want to hold events typical to Saskatchewan and their own community and invite former Saskatchewan residents to 'come home' and participate in local celebrations.

For Saskatchewan's Centennial, communities should be encouraged to enhance their existing events, and initiate new ones. Communities know what they can manage by utilizing their existing human and fiscal resources in a timely and practical manner. With assistance from the Province, community-driven initiatives will be greatly enriched, creating enhanced community pride.

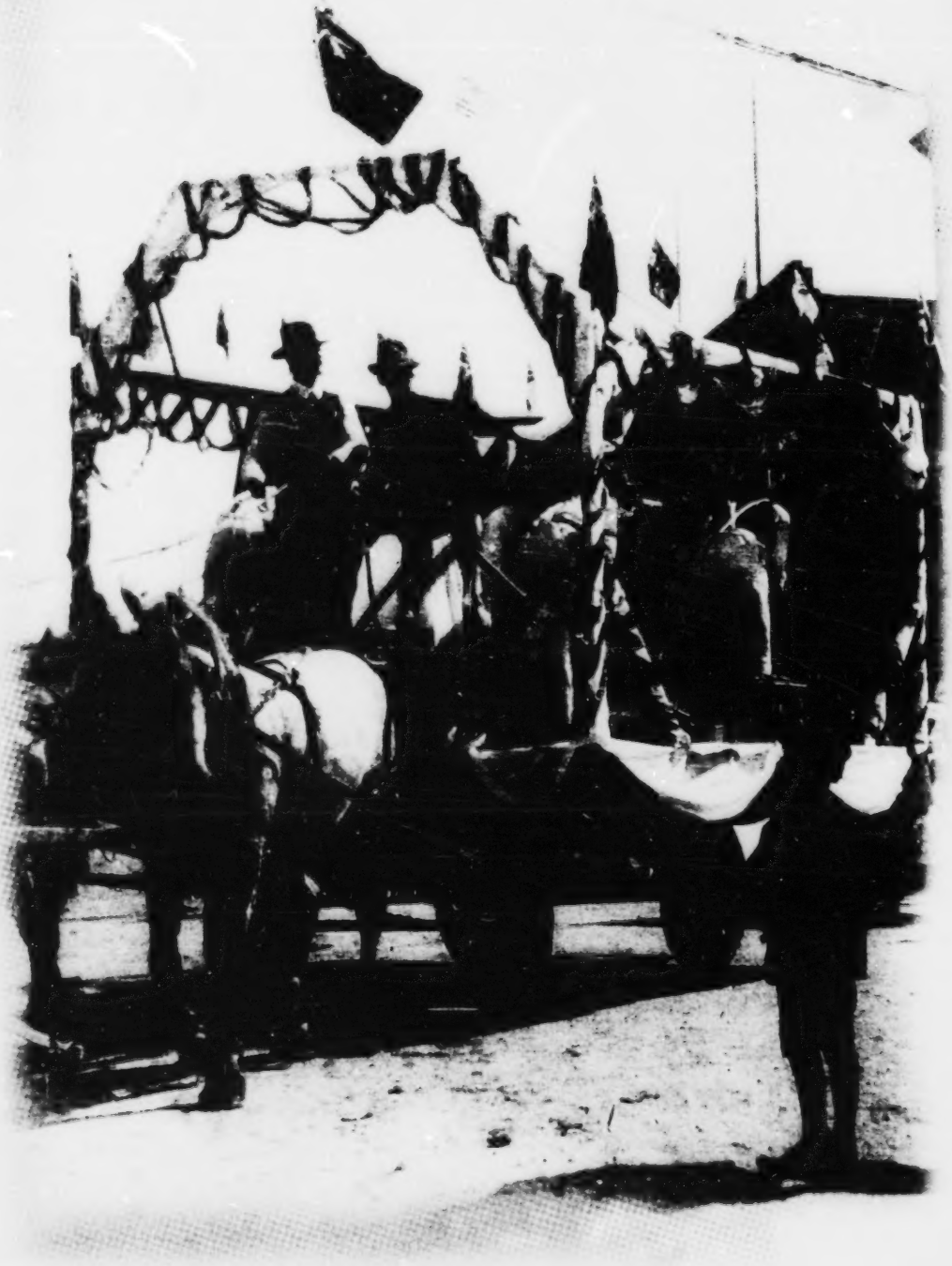
## RECOMMENDATION #4

**Involve and assist Saskatchewan communities in Centennial celebrations.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage and assist those communities celebrating their own Centennial between now and 2005.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage and assist Saskatchewan communities to organize and host homecomings and reunions to be held during the Centennial year.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage and assist all Saskatchewan communities to enhance their existing events and programs during the Centennial year.



STANLEY

## D. ARTS & CULTURAL INITIATIVES & SPORTING EVENTS

Saskatchewan is known throughout Canada and around the world for its warm hospitality and expertise in hosting great events. We have a strong and experienced contingent of volunteer-based sport, culture and recreation organizations. These organizations, working with Saskatchewan communities, have repeatedly shown their incredible hosting capabilities at the national level and on the world stage.

During 2005, it is envisioned many special events will be held in this Province. We already know of several events that will take place in 2005, the Canada Summer Games being one example. In advance of the Centennial year, Saskatchewan's sport, culture and recreation organizations should be encouraged to bring national and international events to this Province to help celebrate Saskatchewan's Centennial.

Organized sport is a contributing factor to Saskatchewan's quality of life. Our athletes often take centre-stage locally, nationally and internationally. For sport, the Saskatchewan Centennial is an appropriate time to showcase local sport heroes and the strong network of community-based, volunteer-run sport organizations, a system that is second to none in Canada. Sport organizations should be encouraged to play a leadership role in promoting, creating, developing and co-ordinating many initiatives for celebrating Saskatchewan's Centennial.

Saskatchewan's vibrant and well-organized arts and cultural communities should be encouraged to play a leadership role in promoting, creating, developing and co-ordinating many initiatives for celebrating Saskatchewan's Centennial. Arts and culture are a significant contributing factor to Saskatchewan's quality of life. Our Centennial is a prime opportunity to foster artistic and cultural pursuits and showcase Saskatchewan talent at home and abroad. Saskatchewan's Centennial affords countless opportunities to create visual, performing and literary works of art, depicting Saskatchewan's past, present and future.

### RECOMMENDATION #5

**Involve and assist Saskatchewan arts, culture, sports and recreation communities in the planning and implementation of Centennial celebrations.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage and assist, where possible, Saskatchewan-based arts, culture, sports and recreation organizations and groups, to enhance their existing programs and develop special initiatives for the Centennial year.

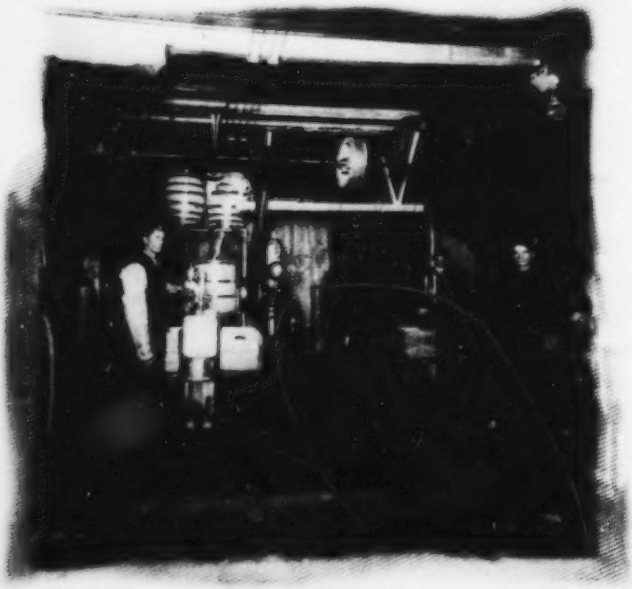
It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage and assist, where possible, Saskatchewan-based arts, culture, sports and recreation organizations and groups, to bring special events and conferences to Saskatchewan during the Centennial year.

## E. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

A report produced by Saskatchewan Economic and Co-operative Development, entitled "Partnership for Prosperity – a Strategy for Success," identified Saskatchewan as having many strengths, including: agriculture, forestry, mining, energy, tourism, culture, information technology, telecommunications, value-added processing, manufacturing, biotechnology and environmental industries.

A major milestone such as Saskatchewan's Centennial is an excellent opportunity for the business, industry and tourism sectors to find innovative ways to promote and market themselves locally and on the world stage, deriving positive economic returns for themselves and hence for the whole Province. For example, the tourism sector will bode well with increased visitations as a result of the hundreds of homecomings, reunions, special events and attractions that will take place throughout Saskatchewan in 2005. Increased visitations in turn provide economic spin-offs to both the Province and to the host community.

All aspects of the business, industry and tourism sectors should be encouraged to develop and participate in Saskatchewan's Centennial. Saskatchewan-based companies with national and/or international affiliations should be encouraged to host their annual meetings and/or conferences in Saskatchewan during the Centennial year.



City of Saskatoon Archives – HST-009-002

### RECOMMENDATION #6

**Ensure the involvement of Saskatchewan's business, industry and tourism sectors in the planning and implementation of Centennial celebrations.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage Saskatchewan's business, industry and tourism sectors to be involved in the planning and celebrations of Saskatchewan's Centennial.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage Saskatchewan's business, industry and tourism sectors to host their regional, national and/or international annual meetings and/or conferences in Saskatchewan during the Centennial year.

# Legacies

Saskatchewan's Centennial is an opportunity to carefully consider what we can create and provide, not just for ourselves and future generations, but for all Canadians and even the world.

Legacies created during special and historic events can be invaluable in fulfilling the dual role of paying tribute to the celebration and creating a permanent symbol. Legacies ensure future generations can benefit from, and enjoy, lasting reminders of past events and celebrations. For Saskatchewan's Centennial a variety of legacies should be encouraged at many levels.

Buildings, bricks and mortar are what generally comes to mind when the word 'legacy' is spoken. However, legacies can take on many shapes and sizes, and can be both tangible and intangible. Both are invaluable components for ensuring a successful Centennial.

Many of the ideas presented by Saskatchewan people during the consultation process identified a need for the Provincial Government to provide funding for capital infrastructure to enhance their local communities. Currently, the Provincial Government is addressing some capital infrastructure needs through its Centenary Fund, announced in the March 2000 Budget Speech. The Centenary Fund, a capital infrastructure program of $120 million, is being expended over four years building toward Saskatchewan's Centennial. Projects supported by the Centenary Fund provide the province with opportunities for economic development, job creation, cultural development, the environment and other social benefits.

Those initiatives funded through the Province's Centenary Fund will enhance the infrastructure of Saskatchewan and address some of the needs communities currently have pertaining to upgrades and refurbishing. During the Centennial consultation process, communities repeatedly stated they require a grant program whereby they can identify their own capital project(s) and apply to the Provincial and/or Federal Government for a portion of the total cost. Communities are more than willing to contribute a portion of the money for such projects themselves, but feel support from the Provincial and Federal Governments would greatly broaden their capacity to revitalize and enhance their communities.

While tangible projects are important, so too are the many intangible benefits resulting from a major milestone such as the Provincial Centennial. Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations will increase awareness and appreciation of our Province amongst our own residents, and will increase awareness of our Province around the world. During the Centennial year visitors to Saskatchewan will experience our immense hospitality and the magnificence and beauty of this great Province. Overall, Saskatchewan pride will be enhanced as a result of the celebrations and by the legacies left behind.

The following are some legacy ideas for Saskatchewan's Centennial.

A. PROVINCIAL CENTENNIAL LEGACIES
B. COMMUNITY CENTENNIAL LEGACIES
C. COMMISSIONS & COMMEMORATIONS
D. PRESERVING OUR HISTORY
E. SASKATCHEWAN PRIDE -- AWARENESS & EDUCATION

## A. PROVINCIAL CENTENNIAL LEGACIES

Major milestones are typically 'crowned' with at least one major legacy project – something that will stand the test of time, be a lasting reminder of the celebration, a tribute for future generations.

This was the case in 1955 for Saskatchewan's 50th Anniversary celebrations, when the Museum of Natural History (recently renamed the Royal Saskatchewan Museum) was built. Likewise, during Canada's Centennial capital projects abounded across the nation when communities in every province and territory built arenas, auditoriums, and many others types of structures.

While there were many ideas expressed that Government should help to build new structures in communities such as performing art centres and public buildings, the first concern at the public meetings was the need to protect Saskatchewan's heritage sites and to restore historic buildings and properties.

Recent polls indicate Saskatchewan people, more than any other province, feel strongly about environmental issues. People in this province are highly concerned with protecting our resources and ecosystems, leaving Saskatchewan's future generations with a healthy and clean environment. Ideas along this theme, including the designation of a new Saskatchewan park, enhancing existing provincial and regional parks, and restoring Saskatchewan's official flower, the Western Red Lily, were presented several times throughout the consultation process.

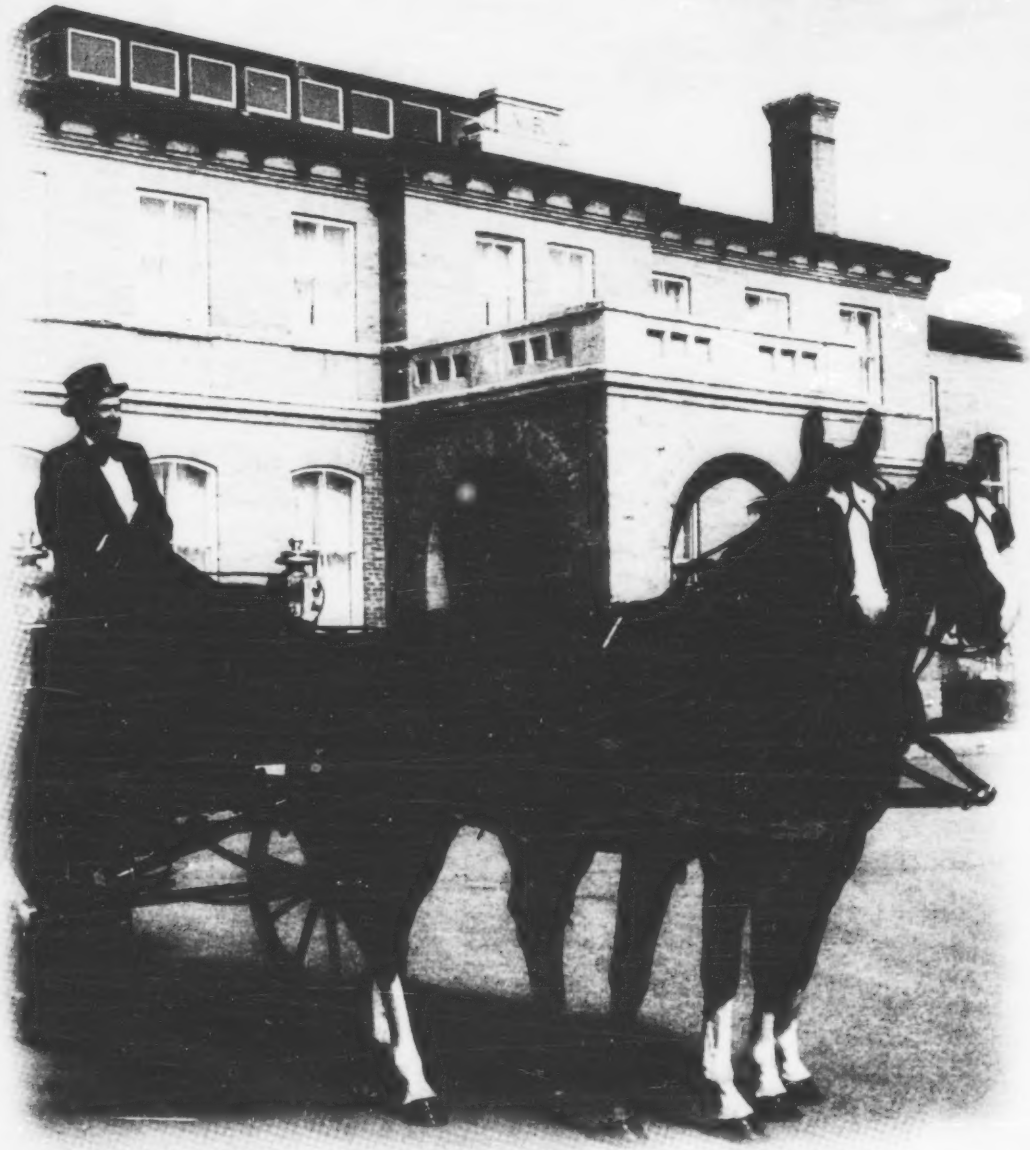
When wisely chosen, a legacy can affect people all over the world. Saskatchewan's Centennial gives us an opportunity to think bigger than Saskatchewan itself – to consider things such as social and/or environmental legacies of benefit to not only Saskatchewan but also the world. Saskatchewan's Centennial is a fitting time to establish a legacy that will stand the test of time, such as what 'Medicare' has become, showcasing Saskatchewan as a caring Province and as a national and world leader.

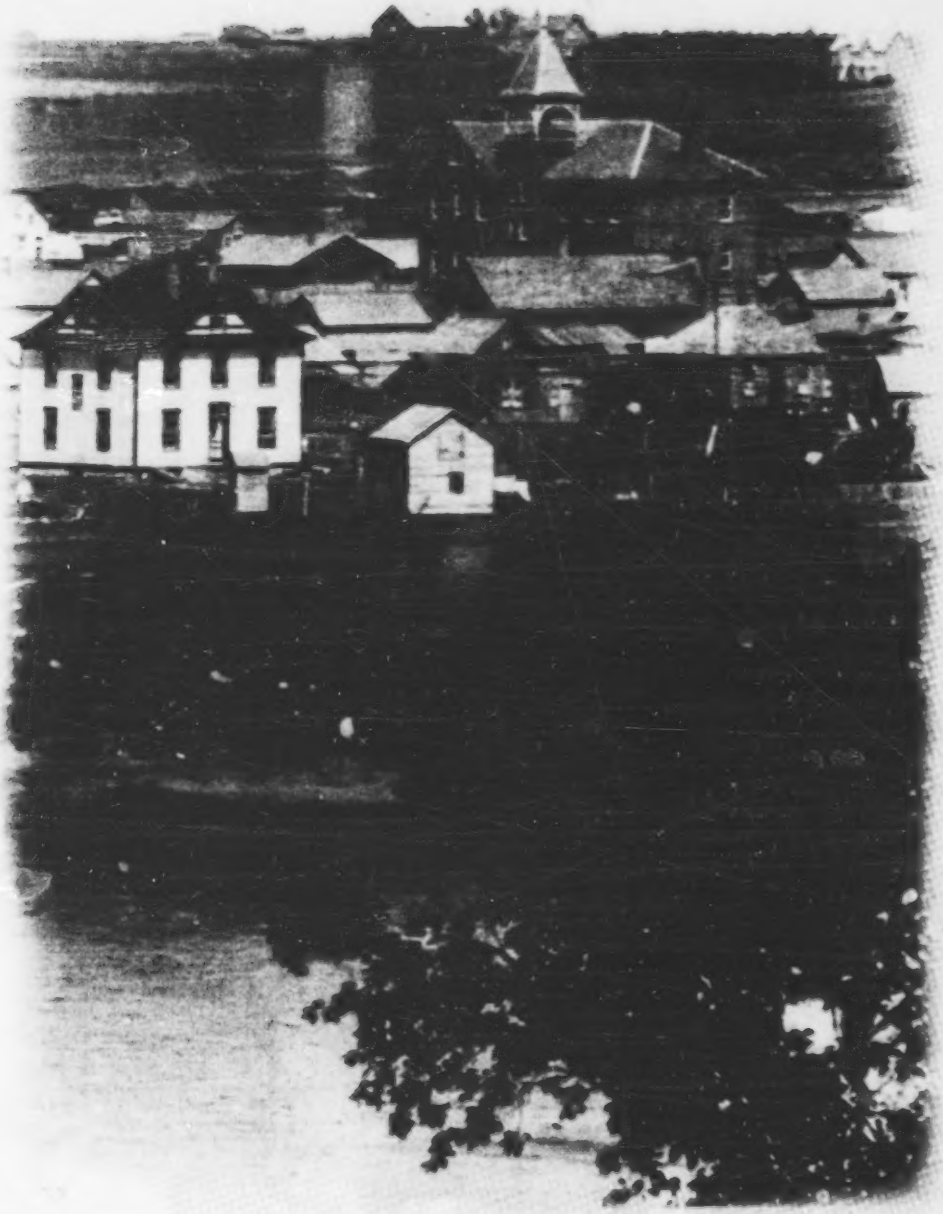
### RECOMMENDATION #7

**Ensure legacies are established during Saskatchewan's Centennial.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage and support the development of a significant Centennial legacy project that is of national and international significance.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan preserve provincial heritage properties, sites and ecosystems of significance to Saskatchewan's heritage, as part of Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations.





B. COMMUNITY CENTENNIAL LEGACIES

Legacies in Saskatchewan's communities can take on many shapes and sizes including capital projects, infrastructure, revitalization and beautification projects. The consultation process identified a recurring theme and desire by communities to build, restructure and enhance their cities, towns, villages and hamlets.

It is envisioned community legacies should be visible and constant reminders of the Provincial Centennial and will evolve and vary depending on the needs and objectives of each community and/or region of Saskatchewan.

During the consultation process many ideas for refurbishing communities were identified by Saskatchewan people, including the preservation of historical buildings and/or landmarks, and the construction of new facilities or revitalizing existing ones. Saskatchewan citizens want to spruce up their communities in advance of the Provincial Centennial.

Saskatchewan people are proud of their communities, and want to be able to maintain and enhance them. Beautification of main-street or downtown areas was a common theme during the consultation process, with suggestions such as projecting the Centennial theme and logo on murals or banners in every Saskatchewan community. Other ideas included painting murals relevant to the history of the local community or region, repairing and painting existing buildings, and planting trees and flowers throughout the community.

A partnership approach should be developed between communities and the various levels of government to build new properties and/or to restore and preserve local historic properties/sites, thus ensuring legacies for future generations as well as creating community pride.

## RECOMMENDATION #8

**Provide Saskatchewan communities with significant opportunities for development and enhancement.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan provide communities with significant opportunities to construct new facilities, or refurbish existing facilities and/or spaces as a Saskatchewan Centennial legacy.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage the development and implementation of main-street beautification and upgrade programs in Saskatchewan communities as a Saskatchewan Centennial legacy.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan engage the Federal Government in funding programs, developed specifically for Saskatchewan's Centennial, in the areas of community infrastructure and renewal.

C. COMMISSIONS & COMMEMORATIONS

Saskatchewan's Centennial presents an excellent opportunity to leave legacies for future generations in the form of stamps and coins and in works of art including literary, performing and visual.

The Provincial Centennial is a fitting time to request an issue of commemorative coins and stamps. These items not only add to the economy, but also are a contributing factor to the awareness and promotion of Saskatchewan's Centennial. Many individuals collect coins and stamps, locally and abroad, and people who traditionally do not collect other kinds of memorabilia will acquire commemorative coins and stamps as a remembrance of Saskatchewan's Centennial.

Works of art are oftentimes commissioned for special milestones, and people often remember those special events and anniversaries with the song that is tied to that occasion. When called upon to think about Canada's Centennial celebrations, the first idea that usually comes to people's minds is the Bobby Gimby song "Can-A-Da". It is not surprising then, throughout the consultation process, Saskatchewan people suggested a special Centennial song be written. As well, commissions in all art forms were suggested with the expectation of leaving valued legacies for generations to come.

## RECOMMENDATION #9

**Develop a Saskatchewan Centennial program for commissions and commemorations.**

**It is recommended that the Province** of Saskatchewan establish a program for commissions and **commemorations as part** of Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations.

Prince Albert becomes a city, 1904. Saskatchewan Archives Board – R-B1613

D. PRESERVING OUR HISTORY

Saskatchewan people are extremely proud of their roots and have a burning desire to preserve their stories, both factual and fiction, for future generations.

During the consultation process, Saskatchewan people's first concern was for preserving Saskatchewan's history, its culture, stories, folklore, properties, historical sites and communities. Saskatchewan people were passionate about the importance and timeliness of the Provincial Centennial for preserving Saskatchewan's history. Our aging pioneer population and the state of our historical buildings and sites is a strong indicator the Provincial Centennial is an opportune time to ensure the preservation of our built heritage and social history.

Our built heritage, the historical buildings and sites, is a tangible part of our past and there is a desire to preserve them for future generations' appreciation and knowledge of their roots. Likewise, our stories and shared values need to be nurtured and preserved. There are countless ways of documenting a people's history and leading up to our Centennial, Saskatchewan's stories should be creatively preserved through a wide range of mediums including films, videos, CD-ROMs, plays, dance, visual arts and books.

It is envisioned the Provincial Government should encourage and support communities to write and/or update their local histories. There is also a need to record Saskatchewan's history in a number of subject areas, such as Saskatchewan's 100 most famous characters, its Aboriginal people, its economy and its politics.

**RECOMMENDATION #10**

**Ensure Saskatchewan's history is preserved and recorded as part of the Province's Centennial celebrations.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage and support the recording and preservation of Saskatchewan's built and social history as part of Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations.

## E. SASKATCHEWAN PRIDE – AWARENESS & EDUCATION

Saskatchewan people are proud of their past – fiercely proud of their achievements and proud of their ability to live in this extreme climate. They are proud of their sons and daughters who have 'made it' in the world. Many great Canadians – sport heroes, artists, performers, journalists, politicians and business leaders had their beginnings in Saskatchewan!

Saskatchewan's Centennial provides the opportunity to raise the level of awareness and pride in all Saskatchewan peopie and will promote Saskatchewan to the rest of Canada and the world.

It is envisioned through a creative and well-thought-out education and awareness program Saskatchewan pride will be nurtured and continue to bloom.

### RECOMMENDATION #11

**Ensure Saskatchewan's Centennial builds pride in Saskatchewan people.**

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan provide opportunities for Saskatchewan people to learn more about their province through enhanced education programs, tourism opportunities and a strategic awareness program, as part of Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan encourage every school, student and classroom in Saskatchewan to develop and carry out special Centennial projects of their own design, with the objective of learning more about their Province, and to share their new-found knowledge with others, as part of Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations.

It is recommended that the Province of Saskatchewan develop and implement a strategic marketing program to promote Saskatchewan's Centennial amongst Saskatchewan people and around the world.

# Conclusion

Saskatchewan's Centennial in 2005 gives the residents of our Province a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create a focal point of optimism and pride in Saskatchewan – to rally our loyalty and parade our accomplishments. It is an excellent opportunity to share the pride we have in our Province with the people of Canada and the world.

Through extensive consultations with Saskatchewan people, the Advisory Council received overwhelming support for celebrating our Centennial. Hundreds of thoughtful, innovative ideas were received from which several common themes emerged. These ideas form the framework reflected in this report from which detailed planning and development can now begin.

Saskatchewan's Centennial is good news for the Province! Ideas have come from communities large and small, from rural and urban areas, from young people and from seniors, from a wide range of business and community organizations. Our Centennial is a time to celebrate the characteristics and accomplishments we share, to revel in our diversity, to celebrate pride in our past and confidence in our future.

When the celebrations are over and the legacies remain, we will know our Centennial has been a success when Saskatchewan people say, "I'm proud to have taken part in our Centennial, and I'm proud to be from Saskatchewan!"

# Summary of Recommendations

1. Establish a Treasury Board Crown Corporation, called the Saskatchewan Centennial Corporation.

2. Develop a Saskatchewan Centennial theme and logo.

3. Include special events, visits and tours in Saskatchewan's Centennial celebrations.

4. Involve and assist Saskatchewan communities in Centennial celebrations.

5. Involve and assist Saskatchewan arts, culture, sports and recreation communities in the planning and implementation of Centennial celebrations.

6. Ensure the involvement of Saskatchewan's business, industry and tourism sectors in the planning and implementation of Centennial celebrations.

7. Ensure legacies are established during Saskatchewan's Centennial.

8. Provide Saskatchewan communities with significant opportunities for development and enhancement.

9. Develop a Saskatchewan Centennial program for commissions and commemorations.

10. Ensure Saskatchewan's history is preserved and recorded as part of the Province's Centennial celebrations.

11. Ensure Saskatchewan's Centennial builds pride in Saskatchewan people.

Celebrating SASKATCHEWAN 2000-2005